



**KELDA HELEN ROYS**

STATE REPRESENTATIVE  
WISCONSIN ASSEMBLY

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE  
May 22, 2009

Contact: Rep. Kelda Helen Roys  
(608) 213-4502

## **REP. ROYS APPLAUDS JOINT FINANCE SUPPORT OF DOMESTIC PARTNER PROTECTIONS**

Madison, WI – Today, Rep. Kelda Helen Roys (D-Madison) issued the following statement after the Joint Committee on Finance voted to extend domestic partnership protections for state employees:

“Today is an important day for equality in Wisconsin. I am pleased that the Joint Finance Committee recognized the necessity of providing equal protections for all state workers and their families.

“For too long, the University of Wisconsin has suffered in recruiting the brightest, most talented faculty and students because of our discriminatory employment policies against same-sex couples. We have lost academic leaders, not to mention the millions of dollars they generated in grants, who left UW because it could not offer domestic partnership protections – the only Big Ten school still withholding these basic rights.

“We still have a long way to go in the budget process, and we in the legislature will be faced with countless difficult choices to pass a responsible state budget in these economic times. Yet today, we can be proud that this budget provision represents the best Wisconsin values: fairness, equality, and excellence in our University.”

###

*Representing Northwestern Dane County*

State Capitol P.O. Box 8953 Madison, WI 53708  
(608) 266-5340 Fax (608) 252-3581 [rep.roys@legis.wi.gov](mailto:rep.roys@legis.wi.gov)